List of Roman Catholic Popes

Ancient Church / Early Christianity (33–500 AD)

1st Century (1–100 AD)

1. St. Peter (33–64/67)
2. St. Linus (64/67–76)
3. St. Anacletus (Cletus) (76–88)
4. St. Clement I (88–97)
5. St. Evaristus (97–105)

2nd Century (101–200 AD)

6. St. Alexander I (105–115)
7. St. Sixtus I (115–125)
8. St. Telesphorus (125–136)
9. St. Hyginus (136–140)
10. St. Pius I (140–155)
11. St. Anicetus (155–166)
12. St. Soter (166–175)
13. St. Eleutherius (175–189)
14. St. Victor I (189–199)
15. St. Zephyrinus (199–217)

3rd Century (201–300 AD)

16. St. Callixtus I (217–222)
    St. Hippolytus (217-235) (first antipope; exiled; later reconciled with the Church)
17. St. Urban I (222–230)
18. St. Pontian (230–235) (first pope to abdicate after being exiled by Romans; martyr)
19. St. Anterus (235–236)
20. St. Fabian (236–250)
21. St. Cornelius (251–253)
    St. Novatian (251) (second antipope and schismatic)
22. St. Lucius I (253–254)
23. St. Stephen I (254–257)
24. St. Sixtus II (257–258)
25. St. Dionysius (259–268)
26. St. Felix I (269–274)
27. St. Eutychian (275–283)
28. St. Caius (Gaius) (283–296)
29. St. Marcellinus (296–304)

4th Century (301–400 AD)

30. St. Marcellus I (308–309)
31. St. Eusebius (309)
32. St. Miltiades (Melchiades) (311–314)
33. St. Sylvester I (314–335)
34. St. Mark (336)
35. St. Julius I (337–352)
36. Liberius (352–366) (exiled by Romans in 355; recalled in 357)
    Felix II (355-365) (third antipope?, replaced Liberius until 357; died 365)
37. St. Damasus I (366–384)
    Ursinus (366-367) (fourth antipope; disputed election; exiled several times)
38. St. Siricius (384–399)
39. St. Anastasius I (399–401)

5th Century (401–500 AD)

40. St. Innocent I (401–417)
41. St. Zosimus (417–418)
42. St. Boniface I (418–422)
    Eulalius (418-419) *(fifth antipope; schism; later removed by emperor)*
43. St. Celestine I (422–432)
44. St. Sixtus III (432–440)
45. St. Leo I (Leo the Great) (440–461)
46. St. Hilarius (461–468)
47. St. Simplicius (468–483)
48. St. Felix *III* (II) (483–492)
49. St. Gelasius I (492–496)
50. Anastasius II (496–498)
51. St. Symmachus (498–514)
    Laurentius (498, 501-505) *(sixth antipope; schism; Synodus Palmaris)*

Early Middle Ages (500–1054 AD)

6th Century (501–600 AD)

52. St. Hormisdas (514–523)
53. St. John I (523–526)
54. St. Felix *IV* (III) (526–530)
55. Boniface II (530–532)
    Dioscorus (530) *(seventh antipope; schism; died suddenly in 530)*
56. John II (533–535)
57. St. Agapetus I (535–536)
58. St. Silverius (536–537)
59. Vigilius (537–555)
60. Pelagius I (556–561)
61. John III (561–574)
62. Benedict I (575–579)
63. Pelagius II (579–590)
64. St. Gregory I (Gregory the Great) (590–604)

7th Century (601–700 AD)

65. Sabinian (604–606)
66. Boniface III (607)
67. St. Boniface IV (608–615)
68. St. Deusdedit (Adeodatus I) (615–618)
69. Boniface V (619–625)
70. Honorius I (625–638)
71. Severinus (640)
72. John IV (640–642)
73. Theodore I (642–649)
74. St. Martin I (649–655)
75. St. Eugene I (654–657)
76. St. Vitalian (657–672)
77. Adeodatus II (672–676)
78. Donus (676–678)
79. St. Agatho (678–681)
80. St. Leo II (682–683)
81. St. Benedict II (684–685)
82. John V (685–686)
83. Conon (686–687)
    Theodorus (687) *(antipope; schism; Theodorus submitted)*
    Paschalis (687) *(antipope; schism; Paschalis refused and arrested)*
84. St. Sergius I (687–701)

8th Century (701–800)

85. John VI (701–705)
86. John VII (705–707)
87. Sisinnius (708)
88. Constantine (708–715)
89. St. Gregory II (715–731)
90. St. Gregory III (731–741)
91. St. Zachary (741–752)
    Stephen II (752) (died before consecration; inconsistent numbering of pope Stephen)
92. Stephen II (III) (752–757) (elected and consecrated immediately after death of Stephen II)
93. St. Paul I (757–767)
94. Stephen III (IV) (768–772)
95. Adrian I (772–795)
96. St. Leo III (795–816)

9th Century (801–900)

97. Stephen IV (V) (816–817)
98. St. Paschal I (817–824)
99. Eugene II (824–827)
100. Valentine (827)
101. Gregory IV (827–844)
    John (844) (antipope; schism; later arrested and imprisoned in a monastery)
102. Sergius II (844–847)
103. St. Leo IV (847–855)
104. Benedict III (855–858)
    Anastasius (855) (antipope; never recognised; later reconciled, serving as Librarian)
105. St. Nicholas I (858–867)
106. Adrian II (867–872)
107. John VIII (872–882)
108. Marinus I (882–884)
109. St. Adrian III (884–885)
110. Stephen V (VI) (885–891)
111. Formosus (891–896)
112. Boniface VI (896)
113. Stephen VI (VII) (896–897)
114. Romanus (897)
115. Theodore II (897)
116. John IX (898–900)

10th Century (901–1000)

117. Benedict IV (900–903) (candidate pope Sergius III lost the election to Benedict IV)
118. Leo V (903)
    Christopher (903) (antipope; deposed Leo V; later himself deposed)
119. Sergius III (904–911) (returned to Rome and deposed Leo V)
120. Anastasius III (911–913)
121. Lando (913–914)
122. John X (914–928)
123. Leo VI (928)
124. Stephen VII (VIII) (928–931)
125. John XI (931–935)
126. Leo VII (936–939)
127. Stephen VIII (IX) (939–942)
128. Marinus II (942–946)
129. Agapetus II (946–955)
130. John XII (955–964)
131. Leo VIII (963–965)
132. Benedict V (964–965) (reign cut short. Historians debate succession)

133. John XIII (965–972)
134. Benedict VI (973–974)
    Boniface VII (974, 984-985) (antipope; murdered Benedict VI; later fled)
135. Benedict VII (974–983)
136. John XIV (983–984)
    Boniface VII (984-985) (antipope; returned to murder John XIV; died suddenly)
137. John XV (985–996)
138. Gregory V (996–999)
    John XVI (997-998) (antipope; installed as pope; later brutally mutilated)
139. Sylvester II (999–1003)

High and Late Middle Ages (1054–1517)

11th Century (1001–1100)

140. John XVII (1003) (papacy lasted six months)
141. John XVIII (1004–1009)
142. Sergius IV (1009–1012)
143. Benedict VIII (1012–1024)
    Gregory VI (1012) (antipope; disputed election; forced to flee from Rome)
144. John XIX (1024–1032)
145. Benedict IX (1032–1044) (occupied the papacy three separate times)
146. Sylvester III (1045)
147. Benedict IX (1045)
148. Gregory VI (1045–1046)
149. Clement II (1046–1047)
150. Benedict IX (1047–1048)
151. Damasus II (1048)
152. St. Leo IX (1049–1054) (the **Great Schism** (1054) between the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches)
153. Victor II (1055–1057)
154. Stephen IX (X) (1057–1058)
    Benedict X (1058-1059) (antipope; elected uncanonically; fled, captured and deposed)
155. Nicholas II (1059–1061)
156. Alexander II (1061–1073)
    Honorius II (1061-1064) (antipope; claimed papacy until Synod of Mantua)
157. St. Gregory VII (1073–1085) (excommunicated Emperor Henry IV; died in exile)
    Clement III (1080-1084) (antipope; installed after Henry IV exiled Gregory VII)
158. Blessed Victor III (1086–1087) (condemned simony and lay investiture)
159. Blessed Urban II (1088–1099)
160. Paschal II (1099–1118)
    Theodoric (1100) (antipope; proclaimed as pope; later captured and imprisoned)
    Albert (1102) (antipope; proclaimed as pope; captured and forced to renounce)
    Silvester IV (1105-1111) (antipope; imperially backed election; later retired)

12th Century (1101–1200)

161. Gelasius II (1118–1119) (forced to flee Rome by Emperor Henry V; died in exile)
    Gregory VIII (1118-1121) (antipope; installed by Henry V; Concordat of Worms)
162. Callixtus II (1119–1124)
163. Honorius II (1124–1130)
    Celestine II (1124) (antipope; short-lived, ending in renunciation and reconciliation)
164. Innocent II (1130–1143) (exiled during schism; re-enters Rome in 1138 as rightful pope)
    Anacletus II (1130-1138) (antipope; schism; death resulted in Victor IV as successor)
    Victor IV (1138) (antipope; collapse of schism universally recognised Innocent II)
165. Celestine II (1143–1144)
166. Lucius II (1144–1145)
167. Blessed Eugene III (1145–1153)
168. Anastasius IV (1153–1154)
169. Adrian IV (1154–1159) (first English pope)

170. Alexander III (1159–1181)
    Victor IV (1159-1164) *(antipope; imperially backed until he died in 1164)*
    Paschal III (1164-1168) *(antipope; proclaimed after Victor IV died)*
    Callistus III (1168-1178) *(antipope; proclaimed after Paschal III died; submitted to Alexander III)*
    Innocent III (1179-1180) *(antipope; proclaimed after Callistus III died; arrested and imprisoned)*
171. Lucius III (1181–1185)
172. Urban III (1185–1187)
173. Gregory VIII (1187)
174. Clement III (1187–1191)
175. Celestine III (1191–1198)
176. Innocent III (1198–1216)

13th Century (1201–1300)

177. Honorius III (1216–1227)
178. Gregory IX (1227–1241)
179. Celestine IV (1241)
180. Innocent IV (1243–1254)
181. Alexander IV (1254–1261)
182. Urban IV (1261–1264)
183. Clement IV (1265–1268)
184. Blessed Gregory X (1272–1276) (after the longest papal election in history: 1268-1271)
185. Blessed Innocent V (1276) (first Dominican pope; died after five months)
186. Adrian V (1276) (died after 39 days and before being ordained a bishop)
187. John XXI (1276–1277) (first Portuguese pope)
188. Nicholas III (1277–1280)
189. Martin IV (1281–1285)
190. Honorius IV (1285–1287)
191. Nicholas IV (1288–1292) (after his death, College of Cardinals deadlocked for 2 years)
192. St. Celestine V (1294) (unexpectedly elected by College; resigned voluntarily after 5 months)
193. Boniface VIII (1294–1303) (issued papal bulls *Clericis laicos* and *Unam sanctam*)

14th Century (1301–1400)

194. Blessed Benedict XI (1303–1304)
195. Clement V (1305–1314) (moved papacy to Avignon)
196. John XXII (1316–1334) (excommunicated Louis IV of Bavaria for defying papal authority)
    Nicholas V (1328-1330) *(antipope; crowned by Louis IV in 1328; submitted to John XXII)*
197. Benedict XII (1334–1342)
198. Clement VI (1342–1352)
199. Innocent VI (1352–1362)
200. Blessed Urban V (1362–1370)
201. Gregory XI (1370–1378) (returned papacy to Rome)

Western Schism begins (1378)

202. Urban VI (1378–1389) (**Rome**)
    Clement VII (1378-1394) *(antipope,* **Avignon***)*
203. Boniface IX (1389–1404) (**Rome**)
    Benedict XIII (1394-1423) *(antipope,* **Avignon** *claimant, declared deposed by Councils of* **Pisa** *and* **Constance**)

Rome	England Holy Roman Empire Northern Italy Northern Europe Naples (at the end)
Avignon	*France* *Scotland* *Castile* *Naples (at the start)*

15th Century (1401–1500)

204. Innocent VII (1404–1406) (**Rome**)
    Alexander V (1409-1410) *(antipope, elected by* **Pisa***; died 1410)*
205. Gregory XII (1406–1415) (**Rome**, resigned to end Schism**,** declared deposed by **Pisa**)
    John XXIII (1410-1415) *(antipope, elected by* **Pisa***; deposed by* **Constance***)*

Western Schism ends (1417)

206. Martin V (1417–1431) (**Rome**, elected by **Constance**)
207. Eugene IV (1431–1447)
    Felix V (1439-1449) (antipope; crowned 1440; limited influence; renounced & reconciled)
208. Nicholas V (1447–1455)
209. Callixtus III (1455–1458)
210. Pius II (1458–1464)
211. Paul II (1464–1471)
212. Sixtus IV (1471–1484) (built Sistine Chapel)
213. Innocent VIII (1484–1492)
214. Alexander VI (1492–1503) (Borgia Pope)

Reformation and Counter-Reformation (1517–1648)

16th Century (1501–1600)

215. Pius III (1503) (papacy lasted 26 days)
216. Julius II (1503–1513) (led military campaigns, began St. Peter's Basilica)
217. Leo X (1513–1521) (excommunicated Martin Luther, began indulgence crisis)
218. Adrian VI (1522–1523) (last non-Italian pope until 1978)
219. Clement VII (1523–1534) (faced *The Sack of Rome* (1527); Henry VIII's split from Rome)
220. Paul III (1534–1549) (initiated the Council of Trent, Counter-Reformation leader)
221. Julius III (1550–1555)
222. Marcellus II (1555)
223. Paul IV (1555–1559)
224. Pius IV (1559–1565)
225. St. Pius V (1566–1572)
226. Gregory XIII (1572–1585)
227. Sixtus V (1585–1590)
228. Urban VII (1590)
229. Gregory XIV (1590–1591)
230. Innocent IX (1591)
231. Clement VIII (1592–1605)

Early Modern Period (1648–1789)

17th Century (1601–1700)

232. Leo XI (1605) *(papacy lasted 27 days)*
233. Paul V (1605–1621) (approved Marian devotion to Our Lady of Loreto, Galileo)
234. Gregory XV (1621–1623) (established Congregation for Propagation of the Faith)
235. Urban VIII (1623–1644) (involved in the trial of Galileo, expanded Vatican Library)
236. Innocent X (1644–1655) (opposed Peace of Westphalia, condemned Jansenism)
237. Alexander VII (1655–1667) (patron of Bernini, expanded St. Peter's Square)
238. Clement IX (1667–1669) (tried to mediate religious conflicts in France)
239. Clement X (1670–1676) (canonized many saints, including St. Rose of Lima)
240. Innocent XI (1676–1689) (fought corruption, opposed King Louis XIV's Gallicanism)
241. Alexander VIII (1689–1691) (condemned Gallicanism, short pontificate)
242. Innocent XII (1691–1700) (reformed nepotism in Church, finances of Papal States)

Modern Period (1789–1958)

18th Century (1701–1800)

243. Clement XI (1700–1721)
244. Innocent XIII (1721–1724)
245. Benedict XIII (1724–1730)
246. Clement XII (1730–1740)
247. Benedict XIV (1740–1758)
248. Clement XIII (1758–1769)

249. Clement XIV (1769–1774)
250. Pius VI (1775–1799)
251. Pius VII (1800–1823)

19th Century (1801–1900)

252. Leo XII (1823–1829)
253. Pius VIII (1829–1830)
254. Gregory XVI (1831–1846)
255. Blessed Pius IX (1846–1878)
256. Leo XIII (1878–1903)

Contemporary Period (1958–present)

20th Century (1901–2000)

257. St. Pius X (1903–1914)
258. Benedict XV (1914–1922)
259. Pius XI (1922–1939)
260. Pius XII (1939–1958)
261. St. John XXIII (1958–1963)
262. St. Paul VI (1963–1978)
263. John Paul I (1978)
264. St. John Paul II (1978–2005)

21st Century (2001–2100)

265. Benedict XVI (2005–2013) (resigned)
266. Francis (2013–2025)
267. Leo XIV (2025-Present)

Note: The list of Roman Catholic popes (see *Annuario Pontificio*) is largely historically accurate especially from the Middle Ages onward, when documentary evidence becomes more complete and consistent. The earliest popes (1st–3rd centuries), however, are less certain, with some names, dates, and successions resting more on tradition than on contemporary evidence. A further complexity arises during periods of disputed succession, most notably the *Western Schism* (1378–1417), when different kingdoms, universities, bishops, and church authorities recognised different papal claimants. The designations "pope" and "*antipope*" applied to these rival claimants reflect the later judgement of the Catholic Church following the resolution of the schism. Despite such uncertainties and disputes, the overall succession of popes is broadly accepted, with only a limited number of points remaining the subject of scholarly debate.

Summary of the Western Schism

The ***Western Schism*** (1378–1417), also known as the *Great Western Schism* or the *Papal Schism*, was a prolonged crisis in the Roman Catholic Church during which rival claimants each claimed to be the legitimate Pope. Unlike the East–West Schism of 1054, the dispute was not over doctrine but over the rightful occupant of the papal office.

The Schism arose from the legacy of the **Avignon** Papacy. Between 1309 and 1377, seven successive popes resided at Avignon rather than Rome, leading many to believe that the papacy had fallen under French influence. In 1377, Pope **Gregory XI** returned the papal court to Rome but died the following year.

The election of his successor took place in a tense atmosphere, with the people of **Rome** demanding an Italian pope. On 8 April 1378, the cardinals elected Bartolomeo Prignano, who became **Pope Urban VI** (1378–1389). Although his election was initially accepted, his abrasive manner and attempts at reform soon alienated many of the predominantly French cardinals. Claiming that they had voted under intimidation, they declared the election invalid and, on 20 September 1378, elected Robert of Geneva as **Clement VII** (1378–1394), who re-established the papal court at Avignon.

Europe was consequently divided between two obediences. France, Scotland and several other kingdoms recognised the Avignon pope, while England, most Italian states and much of the Holy Roman Empire supported the Roman pope. Each claimant appointed bishops and cardinals, issued papal decrees, and asserted himself to be the sole successor of St Peter.

When **Urban VI** died in 1389, the Roman cardinals elected **Boniface IX** (1389–1404), who was succeeded by **Innocent VII** (1404–1406) and then **Gregory XII** (1406–1415). Meanwhile, following **Clement VII**'s death in 1394, the Avignon cardinals elected **Benedict XIII** (1394–1423). Rather than healing the division, each succession perpetuated the rival lines.

Attempts to end the Schism initially made matters worse. In 1409, the **Council of Pisa** (comprising 14 **Roman** cardinals and 10 **Avignon** cardinals) declared both **Gregory XII** and **Benedict XIII** deposed and elected **Alexander V** (1409–1410). Neither of the existing claimants accepted the council's authority, however, and both continued to assert their claims. Following **Alexander V**'s death in 1410, the **Pisan** cardinals elected **John XXIII** (1410–1415), leaving Christendom with three rival popes instead of two.

The crisis was finally resolved at the **Council of Constance** (1414–1418) – comprising representatives of the Church and the secular rulers of Western Christendom, including cardinals, bishops, abbots, theologians, and ambassadors of the principal European kingdoms. **Gregory XII** authorised the council and voluntarily resigned on 4 July 1415. **John XXIII** attempted to flee the council but was captured and formally deposed on 29 May 1415. **Benedict XIII** refused to resign despite repeated appeals and was declared deposed by the **Council** in 1417, although he continued to claim the papacy until his death in 1423 with only a handful of supporters. On 11 November 1417, the council elected **Martin V** (1417–1431), whose election was widely accepted throughout Western Christendom, bringing the Western Schism to an end.

Although no doctrinal issues were involved, the Western Schism seriously damaged the prestige of the papacy by exposing the extent to which political rivalries could shape ecclesiastical affairs. It also encouraged the development of conciliarism, the belief that a General Council could, in exceptional circumstances, exercise authority over a pope. The crisis weakened confidence in the institutional Church and contributed to the climate of reform that preceded the Protestant Reformation.